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The Tudor Facsimile Texts

The Play of
Wit and Science

Wit & Science D

Date of Composition, *c.* 1550
Reproduced in Facsimile, 1908

The Tudor Facsimile Texts

Under the Supervision and Editorship of

JOHN S. FARMER

The Play of Wit and Science

MADE BY MASTER JOHN REDFORD

[*c.* 1550]

Issued for Subscribers by

T. C. & E. C. JACK, 16 HENRIETTA STREET

LONDON, W.C.: AND EDINBURGH

MCMVIII

The Play of Wit and Science

MADE BY MASTER JOHN REDFORD

This facsimile is taken from the original manuscript in the British Museum (Press-mark, Add. MSS. 15233, folios 11–27). No early printed copy has at present been found, but in all probability the manuscript is in John Redford's own handwriting: at all events the script is that of the middle of the sixteenth century, say 1530–50. The original is in the unusual form of a memorandum book, the lines running across the short width of the page, so that "the gutter" is, in the original, at the top of the page, and not, as in this facsimile, in the left-hand margin. It was purchased for the nation at the sale of the Bright MSS. in 1844. The binding is without doubt contemporary with the manuscript, and is still in excellent condition though it has apparently been patched here and there.

It is somewhat curious that nowhere in the British Museum Catalogue does Redford's name occur; this play has never been catalogued as his therein, though his name appears both in the MS. and in the reprint made for the Shakespeare Society (B.M. Press-mark, Ac. 9485. 33).

John Redford, musician, poet and writer of interludes,

was organist and almoner of St. Paul's. Tusser in his autobiographical poem mentions him as "master of the children of St. Paul's" about 1535. *His instrumental works are well known—mainly florid counterpoint upon a plain song. As "master of the children" it was part of his duty to provide dramatic entertainments; and probably "The Play of Wit and Science" was written for, and played by, his "children." The date of Redford's death is unknown; but as Sebastian Westcott was "master of the children of St. Paul's" in* 1559, *probably Redford had died before that date.*

The manuscript book containing the original of this facsimile includes also some musical sketches (possibly memoranda only), and fragments of two other moralities, one of them in Redford's name.

Amongst these "odds and ends," however, but quite apart from the play itself, are three songs, each ear-marked respectively "The fyrst song ["The ij song," "The thyrd Song"] in the play of Science." In this facsimile these songs are given as nearly as may be (i.e. *without regard to the miscellaneous matter just referred to*) *in the same position as they occur in the original manuscript volume. Thus they will be found in this facsimile at the end of the play proper.*

The student will readily observe that the place of these songs in the play is as follows:—

(1) *The first song, "Gyve place to Honest Recreacion," comes in on page 7 of the text between the words "and so make an end" (last line but one of the stage direction at the foot of the page), and "and than honest recreacion sayth as folowyth" (end of last line but one, and last line of page).*

(2) *The second song occurs on page* 19 *of the text of this facsimile, at line* 15, *where it is plainly placed by the words, "Here the[y] Syng Excedynge Mesure."*

(3) *The third song occurs on page* 31 *of this facsimile in the middle of the stage direction half way down the page, after the words, "and answer evre second verse."*

Mr. J. A. Herbert, of the Manuscript Department of the British Museum, on comparing this facsimile with the original manuscript, reports that "the reproduction has again been excellently carried out:" the extra "sharpness" now observable in these facsimiles is doubtless due to the more suitable paper being used for the purpose. Only in two or three instances, and that to a trivial extent, is this reprint anything but as clear as the original. Moreover, owing to the form of the original, and also to the fact that the MS. does not consist, as is frequently the case, of loose sheets subsequently bound together in a more or less careless fashion, there are no "cut" margins and no "nipped" words.

JOHN S. FARMER.

Reason / hon in remembrance of reson good yee
a grad of reson / wherein beyonde yee
yowre reach to yowre lordes name worshipfull
en nowre mw dowghter / science then for
that all thyngs be created & wrete accordyd yo
cast of the scripturs we myght dowte yo
thys grad of reason shall showe yo all
wayes yo have that yo have more shall
get yo fourth now / Instruction gyve eare

Instruction / syr god bless yo / goode all ye entende
Reason / & yo all from hens

If any man nede marvell that I
procede so farrowe my dowghter thus abrupte
of trouth I reson am of this mynde
where vartuos togethr be enclosyd
be gyftes of graces to love us bee
there / for I in iepne the tone with the tother
this way I sues grafte of graces hath in hym
that makes my dowghter to wyll to wyn hym
yoong / wayward / frarfasle / & cavaw
this be wyth gyftes wherin I ienys dely
& ab for her as soone as wyt good for
for all the woorld go wood not then chose for
wherfore sins hyps ofs be so moche matches
to love the other fravels for the vatis of
ab woodby mutes / yence hath mowght
for thent ots to dyte yt wyt be thralde
stuy:ie in love ab for sins hath stronde
I dowte not my dowghter wyll be wonde
hondes of sys for nay wyll awroke all
yt wyt / hold owte no nedes vroofe to fall
and that the better hold out yo may
to refrosse my soone wyt nowe by the way
in ocab for hym I wyll no more
am bonyst woman dwelith here besyde

whose name is called honest vocacion
ab mon vocacyt / for wyth consolacion
he hath no veere / yf wyth wyne falce goode
he coueth vertue / hym / then is yt sed
wyse sers yf mony or ells can hym gete
to hym after wyll desyre her

consyder not / ryth inwt / a pyrsume of wyll

as yow what tyme of day who com tell
the day yt not far past I wist where
for I have gone fast & eyet I see
I am far from where ab I woldē be
Well I shud day mowgh yet I seye
where here or I wab shud mowe must I
se thy fame token shew / ar ewyne cast
what wyll hath sent to my cadyst grace
now wyll yt ser a goodly vyrtuw of
I wyll hym seake thy wone image shuw
face / bodye / armes / legg / cote hym & joynt
ab lyke hym ab can be in wordy woynt

yf lakke but eyes / wordl I can hym thanke
thy token in deede shall make hym crawke
for what wyth thy vyrtuw / thy wordly awordes
& what wyth hose / wreste wardes / wordly awordes
dyffryng from the mirth of conseyence
shall not thy wage the gaste of kyndnes
yet I thanke the I am of that nature
wele to com ab thy men after shuw
ab ye shall see nowe who best to marke yt
how nearby & feately I shall warke yt

Nowe syr ch on where is the way nowe
thy way or that way stndye how say yon
weake dyffyculte where the shall be thowghte
that way be lyke most ways shall wrowght hym
ye shud yowe weare best wer have nowe stay
for instruccion I lyke not that way

Wyf / Instruccion stedyd & perseno wil save coste hym

Instruccion / Sir doode shall gentyll woman pe / ave lost hym
Mast in what mone you wyll shall to dryght to
vinnyng before hym stycke owt of pouche
& therby shal ye your way now gnyghte
what doo ye here or coste ye wold fyghte
en sack a gayne wyf for / must ryde ye
an other way then thy or elle coste ye

Wyf / what ayleth thy wayl parell gentyll now

Instruccion / and ab mine ab your cyste standth vpon
your dnying mean tyme here before ye
tedyousnes to draume or to gone ye

Wyf tedyousnes / doth hurt tyrant rest
in my way now lord gone and cost
that occacion sowre me stirred
for my dere gentyll sake to wayme my sowred
for would ye fere me wyth that sowre to ryde
wyth ryght some to mote my dysyre is ryght

Instruccion / & what would ye doo / yon sayeng nowght
for your defence for nought ye gave rowght
gavinent of stryght vpon your sacke
yet wold ons of stirrop ye do lack

Wyf what wold ons of stirrop shuld I have
Instruccion shuld ab all cowrte of hyr cockes crabe
a token from cadyt stirrop wil serue
gone of her favor may sayng & hyr eye
comforte wyght is hyr woman lowde
that must serue yone against tedyousnes

Wil to folyn

Wyt / yff ioye or comfort may be my woman
thou never vs redyonnes mor thy self
for all for ioye of my desyre hast favor
& thy cõfort & ryches & grace

Instruccion / wyt geve me / thyll I see confydence
take bowgh in town from lady vyrtue
that I may speke that yu favorst yon
yt wab not thy way & tell yon true

Wyt / wegyth way thow

Instruccion / a clayme way & fold yt
out of danger from yonre foe to hold yt

Wyt / instruccion / how me / or my wyt to hast
shall geve that wyt / from / that vertues offall start
thou vse thy body & all shall erache
forth & work thy worke & cast over & cache

dyligence / yff yt cache reason yt / geve it one
Wyt / wyll away dyligence / thow art alone
geve thy yt yt is not geve reason.

Instruccion / wyth that reason your enmy never thynk on
for wyth out thy bryngyng of confydence
ye may be playne sure for all dyligence /

dyligence / god spede & dyligence & bee yon clayme
wyll clay thy man or my master or clayme

Instruccion / yt on t what sayth study no remedy thy
wyt / no spe yt enemy study to serve it
mystes for thy chamber not fold
but take my study wyt thow now yt

study / my god alth sore grudge I not mend
wyt / thy god ale now & wold it vow bend
en on walking may have to ese thy

Instruccion / & wyll ye be gone hen / why then
wyt / yt thy my fayth spedest yt thy ye after
reason shall know yere enfant master

here al wyt study & dyligence

Instruction /

Wo[u]ld go you[r] way wo[r]m you[r] fa[th]er reason
heark how ye obay me at [th]y[e] season
I [th]ynke ye wo[u]ld [th]ynke [th]y[e] do[gg]ter nov
may marry an other man for you[r]
wi[th]in wy[t] stand so in [th]er owne conceite
cast out [th]em get you[r] way do as I bid you
thinne I cast them downe hedlong agayne
ab ye shall see you[r]self by [th]y[e] wyt betayne
yf you[r] fayth fayle not to en[d]ure
[th]y[e] grand distruction howsoo[n] you[r] gather
wherefore fo[r] you[r] wyll I now gather
leaving that charge wherein ye abide set mor

Secund instruction

Sedycyous wit

Of the body of sinne
What kayth [th]e [th]e
that we be not en[d]ued
with sedicious nose
knit [th]e eyes not
out of my mist
wash I pore of sinne
[th]y[e] body to rest
that wyt that wayne
that we be assamed by sinne
yf ib be stayne
that [th]ib be[th]ell make him
we be not my cyrcumc
to talke or mi[n]de
to [th]at [th]ey [th]inne
to wed that before
out of [th]eir fleshe
and for that do abo[m]inable
ov wyt en my ey
[th]e knaue[s] [th]ey shall ake
[th]eb bones [th]ib mall
shall cate [th]em to dust
be hal [th]eb shall
once grieue that knaueb ast
that has more [th]ynkeb
I am not sacke tuste
[th]eb ionst [th]eb [th]ynkeb
to vnsle & sathe vnst ye
I must go shake them
smoke to make them

Words poem

Stand back ye wretches
Beware the serpent
of seditions
that hath entered so God
make room for law
roving eyes draw
keep we out that draw
what can keep what draw
before me behind me
round about encompass me
now & ever
to live in my sin
now am I nemo
to make them remote
vast God vast cruelty
he draw at are sayne
all that I sin
wherein art thou wont
thou art enf dead
stretch thy rod
strike Christ God
for to be

Worst stretch
at the door strike

strike Sweet

wast How doth thy God ab-
stain We God wot thy mind wayne I do take
dost Darkness

darkness Send thy Grace
wast How dost thou
Doth thy stomach serve the to eat more
darkness We thy words wonder wrong accounted on thy
That threaten you him / or even wrong him

~~strike wrest from darkness / better nay~~
~~better now strike why stand we~~
~~search and wait on God who some~~
darkness Why canst thou strike thou shalt do no more
and say to my master why thy wrestling

no more shall thou me[ss]ager dysgrame
ayde me wyth your service me best you may
& for my love my [sc]he shall it take vayne

I will be redye to ayde you so

I agree no more studye then goe

why art thou there

returned to thy vayne

then gave at the

gave at the ayayne / [illegible] down

[illegible]

Lye thou there nor rise at ye day tyme
be ye [illegible] a treason thou
thy maysters [illegible] the wretched traytor
thou hast wrought yet shalt thou [illegible]
be thy maysters ordynaunce [illegible]
in twenty [illegible] I should have [illegible]
to [illegible] thou [illegible]
of [illegible] walke under a bowe
I trow now thy wytte & all for thee
thou wylt no more new robes wear
yet [illegible] thou [illegible]
the treason shall [illegible]
now thy [illegible] & take thy right

[illegible]

[illegible] / [illegible] / [illegible]
[illegible] / [illegible] / [illegible]
[illegible] / [illegible] / [illegible]
[illegible] / [illegible] / [illegible]
[illegible]

16

Honest vera/ation | Nowe wyf howe do ye woylle ye be iustye

wyf | Tys iustice for yon needs be must I

Honest vera/ation | Nay ye shall holde yor after yonr fall

wyf | Ah ever I wab thanke so yon all

Reson cū nichin/ Esayth ab/ sence yt | ye myght thanke reson that sent them so ye
that lyke he hard done that they shold do ye
send them home soone & yet ye forwarde

wyf | og father reson I had an hard ~~thanke~~
thinge lyne ye sarvine

Reson cū nichin | I wot well that/ ~~he move to blame ye~~
he move to blame ye whom ye wold not
obay instruction ab reson wold ye
what marvell thowgh body hir had by
out cot xab nowe lyne ye in wolle agayne
set forward agayne syence to attayne

wyf | godfather reson be not so hastye
in honest cū xamy no tyme waste
I shall to yonre dowgter all at ones

Reson | ye wyf is that the trete love ye vayfeger
I saw yt ye love my dowgter science
wel yet ye sooth at entre/ se yet ye game

wyf | ~~Ellis~~ nay by sayne george they go not all yet

reson | nc wyll ye dysobey reson wyf

wyf | father reson I xray ye content ye
for we xarte not yet

Reson | well wyf I went ye
had gone no fine yr old sins man ab nowe I see / very th
honest vera/ation | he yt mighty

wyf | ye let him go
I do not xasse
cū nowe a basse

Honest recreation
nay syr ab. sor bassyb
sych sonce none bassyb
that ab in darge
of mary agre

Wyf
mary. eryn so
a burgayn to

Honest recreation
what wythout ey sone
ch cadys skynne

wyf
shall ſ tell yon brothe
ſ never coude ſpir

Honest recreation
the comon voyce goes
that mariage ys mete

wyf
promyse hath ſone none
ys wyf shalbe wone
wythout more wordes graunt

Honest recreation
what woon this sodayne
then myght to ye dcapne
tyd me dowrit
nay that me see
in honeſte
what ye can doo
to my recreation
woen that vocation
ſ graunt hit to.

Wyf
shall be my doinge
but ax to all thynge
ſ am ſ swet

Honest recreation
can ye dalwnethan

Wyf
eryn ab ſ can
woue mo ſye mete

Honeſte recreation
then for a wyfe
ye must ocupye
this garmont en bryng

Wryf / In deede at ye say
thy crowne and
would make wyf thereof

honest vocation / yf it be gay geere
fashion cloth
it become her
Wryf / whose ever it were
yt is the more shame

honest vocation / go to my mon Alan

here she downe / & in the mire
where / & well not rise / & she downe
& where she gaes and is dodie / west sayst
ab folowyst she fast downe in Kirkcudbright

honest vocation / wer wyse / now hab ye done sure
honest vocation / ye in faith ye were good ye have wasted me
Wryf / among the dunghill now way & rest me

honest vocation / what thou

Wryf / ye gone & way be so bold

Idonea / ye & watten thy hyn that god sold

honest vocation / yf yt be an harlot may ye not see

Idonea / ab honest a woman ab ye be

honest vocation / her name is Idonea wyf what meane you

Idonea / may what meane you to scolde and you gaine you

Wryf / her go to co now for the best game
wyfe & take my ale your hearing now frame

honest vocation / ye wyf by your faith is that your vocation
will ye leave me honest vocation
for that comon trumpet Idonea
he never ye wode be all wronged
Wryf / he saith she is ab honest ab ye
declare your selfe both now ab ye be

Honest-vocation

What wolde ye more for my declaration
Then even my name honest vocation
& what wolde ye more yet to be knowe
Then even yet my name to be called
Destruction of all that wyll your towne
Wherefore cut away wyll ye wyll ye

Idolatrie

Wyll I nat sir Sym drawe hyther what hyther
Where hyther I shall nat sir Sym all redye hyther
Quycke hyther thy trasse honest vocation
ordeyne a wooll man after thy fashion
to cause Sym that I make his commodytie
even wyth the prouynge that thou of thy tayle
thy dyuyne set fyre & brenne myne I
I shall hold Sym eyther no I saye
I must nyther that Sym wyll Sym & shame Sym
to the fyre eyther where hyther dydst came Sym me
me I thou olde lyuyst thou of vyrtuousnes
nay thou art wyll of all vyce dothe lacke
thou art vocation of more euyll
then I wolde thou were nay more then thy dyuyne
thy dyuyne the dam can not destroyse
more destroyeth not then by the deth vyce
vnder the name of honest vocation
she is brought in her abhominacion
marke how bewrayeth your meschefe & mumpyng
where more conscyence then there clymyng
for candyng for dyeryng daily & nyghtly
where I pray ye more falsed then here honestye
wyth lyeng & swearyng by no reason
but hearyng god in a thousand thinges
to fyll your pursyng pyllyng & pyckyng
what vnthryftynes then in his handlyng
seruyce the false synfull world all fyne clene
myght sauedye no gyft wolde I vse to scape
& yet thou it hated honest vocation
& scorne idolatrie abhominacion
Out wo[illegible]

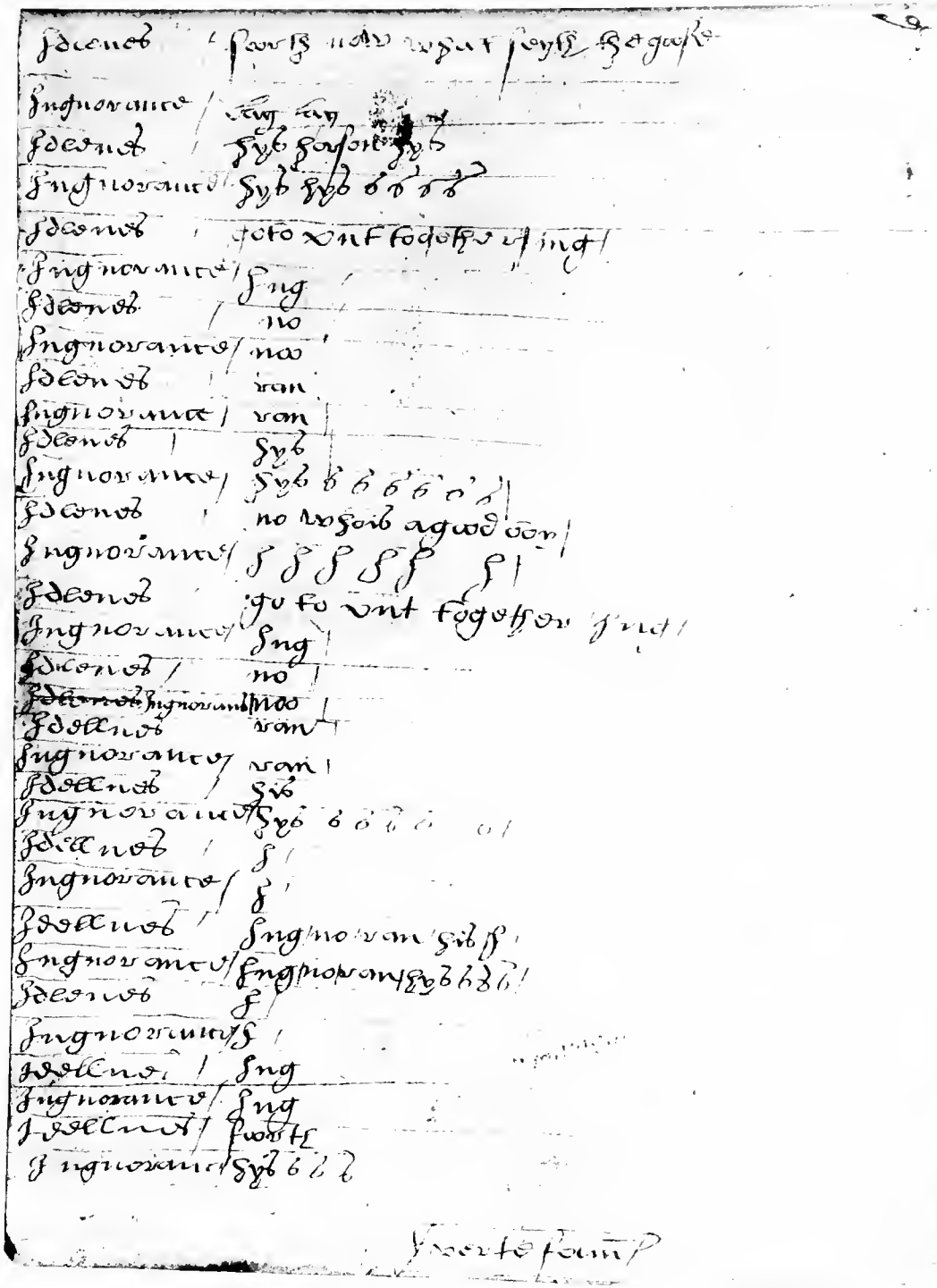
Wyght Therefore not thow wrong & judge yet

honest recre-
ation no yo yowr imagmacions then that yo
can neyther perceve that doth yow se
doth abowte to dysceave yow nor yet
remembre howe fayrely yowre eyes wyll
thynke yow yor meete wyth most to compare
by wysome man amyd wyld erryd are
reason wyll se dothe on act ab & dyd
advyse yowr eyes reason & yow reverenced
& ab & fayrely yow to save & all.
that in eyke peerlesse & name to call
reason fedionus to gett wnd hath smotten home
honest recreation ex doth anyther home
wyth nice honest recreation sport or games
ab vse to myne honest nature frames
& not ab she sayth wyth vaine nice shyfte
ab ee abused eyther or mine
for reasons honest vaine ee abused
honest recreation is refused
honest recreation is present never
but where honest vaine ee well used ever
that in deede reason she is called
ab all nice abuse she to dresse ee
perfect & a true myne honest game
& therefore will playe my name defame
under the name of honest recreation
she cryeth in all her acclamation
destroying all wyth that her imbrace
ab yowre eeke shall see wyth in short space
she wyll crying yow to scomfish & wyld wyght
except the sooner from her ye flyght
reserved & in away wyght out of her vaine
fancies draw lest hym go out of thy claws &
wyll ye yet ye fancie or by the mare
lest claws shall draive yow by yowre drawe spare

I dicere

Honesty reverence — yt shall not neede [illegible]
[illegible]

Idoneus — [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[



Ingnorance/ Syr can my cosson

Hostler/ yor horsse

Ingnorance/ shall have a new cote by god I swore

Ingnorance/ A new cote

Hostler/ ye a new cote ode bye by
yf wyll hyr ode cote new cote enyse

Ingnorance/ A new cote A new cote A new cote

Hostler/ Cease yorson sare Well how make sum mo
unstan hy cote sare cans have do nothyng

Ingnorance/ I note what shuld be

Hostler/ I note how shuld be / spoke col yde hy
I wyll hyt sceryth on new wyan
Cut sake hym no arme soole

Ingnorance/ Cut cut

Hostler/ syr / now let me see how hyr gone
Mayster hym his wyfe wyan hyt hyr
as god abe hyt / so happely hyt scerythdoth
wyll on yom cote hyr new cote / an
ab sett ab cam for his one arme

Ingnorance/ of / am a cold

Hostler/ hold sare hyr the warme
con hyr hold his god sonne / sir
ye shall se home gone or ellys
that ye shall same scantly know hym
how is cote ab hyr sir his
ab it had gone made
so yt of gyne to cote cyte a nedlyr

Ingnorance/ Cummin

Hostler/ What aylyst now sir

Ingnorance/ new cote is gone

Hostler/ Cwhy is it gone

Ingnorance/ thrashed ode on

Hostler/ thrashed ode on thrashed ode it
on marvell it were that ode it
seins garment on Ingnorance
sat now / so syr what do ye

Vorte

no thyng but ewin to enbell youre thy throte
so wekk thy wyt serue a fooles cote

Ignorance / Se is I nowe

Harlinch / Ye now tyllest him nowe
is he not a foole ab wolle ab thow

Ignorance / yeah

Harlinch / well than no on foole loue another
serue me thy ch take thow that brother

Ignorance / wyll

Harlinch / wyll he some go

Ignorance / thyll go tell my mother

Harlinch / yea do
but yet to take more ouer my desire to
wryte a verse or two arme herein / and
I will againe & now thy gueste
to ask thy warke away no more are ye wroth
by north of harlinch crossing roode
I mind from wyt vnto a stone the foole

Confydence / Speake speake ab woon on no grounde
can rest but tyke a master tell nowe
wandering all about seruing thy master
alas ionke wyll I serue he passion
that my two seruyce cleue vnto thow
so take thy mynd cleue vnto woe
I haue done thy message in such sorte
that I not onlye for thy comfort
to vanquysse thy mone amm gaue brought gaue
a reward for comfort from thy loue doue
but also hurder I gaue so enclyned hor
that vpon my words she hath affyned hor
in her arme to carry halfeway to mette thee
& thyther ward she came for to greete thee
I sawe her not she so hymned a gayne
thyther ward eft soon / or so long to tarye
to speake to mycate thy sorrow in thy brest
but now aloft thy sorrie hart cast
out of the coast thow wyll not so hastie
alas ionke wyll / sorrow dost thow wounde

hyr humyltye & humylyaunt / consyderacon
to cause my evydence / to cadye scyence
howe cohyst me to / for yff I come not
fynd hyssor thy / congor cyrcle magnot
but sterthe / gof me ouer in to a corner
& dyd for sorowe hyde my a scorner egreat

same / ca sholde of vs not dysdayne to de
favour / shuld be sene / hence thereforce hyr sent vs
/ he hoped we wold be of her content
/ content vs we man synce we be assuryd
to the favyrst cadyn hyt tyde
/ hyer of vs not stay sene mete
but last we the hyr mynd

Exposycyon / dowgter wyat meanyth / that ye dyd not synge

scyence / as mother for sooth ye knowe ryght
I send we thanke you for the pain ye cause vs
taken on vs as hauyng to vs many lyke
/ cadye hebrewe vocabulys & vaynglo too
we sende to you / you seruyce to doe

same / cadye scyence / to set forth your name
the world to speake on your gate sent me forth
favour / cadye scyence for your vertue most excellyce
he moved to shewe you favor hath sent ye

wyt / cadye scyence / for your comyn wyt hath
he moved to maintayne you wyght hath shedyn

Exposycyon / and as he moved hath sent you hyer
so he sendyth me / vocabulys to all nacyons degre

scyence / thanke he world and gracyus god do reward
hym in he world that dare / to scyence hath
but yet to late you learne ye mayster
as scyence taught for cyrcle new minde
forseyng as I am alone woman
made of your seruyce / nether sithe nature
but hyer nat he moved & you for your vayn
I send ye to he world exployte actyue

next folio

Worldly
Worldly cadyes see ye no more seeke by mee
Worldly ye se knowyst by howe seelie I se
fame
I se selfe knowyst by same vnseene I seeke see
I se cannot vnderstand the world with my
labour
I se selfe knowyst by labour vnder I seeke see
I se cannot vnderstand the world without labour
Wyttes
I se selfe knowyst by wyttes vnder I seeke see
I se cannot see the world in code
science
In deede small cause I seeke see in the world
seeing the vanity of the world I se vnderstand
Experience
what is the matter dowst see that ye
be so sad when your mynde is mo
science
My marvell is no lesse my good master
that me thinke is greate to see of all other
the wonderfull arte of myne same to name natures
vnpresent me a verye true of the natures
with all the same of him that have exceeding
the amorous teares thereby celebrating
course toward me in abundant facion
I also finde to make vnperfect relation
of this the code I se not the confusion
such a messenger ab no impression
toward greatest in me of the confusion
me
experience
Wise I assure ye worthy sirs begotten
I pray still obedience in this mystery
I se earthly the work of this master covering
that no living creature toward contacte
but that power could by that work discerne
experience
I
science
have time sending from place to place
discerne with this main I serve no more
neither of work nor this code so serve
some think you by this, my nothing deare master

Experience / daughter in this ſame thynke none offen
ende but ſyt is tyme thys enterprice cease
leſt we cause is done ſay ſone ſtand
in[illegible] gode daughter ſome yon vnt[illegible] muſt
to ryght ward / to ſay at the moſt
for ſake this cause of wyſt bene gouernyd
& ordeyn[illegible] ſhrewdaſſyon ſeruandy &
eyther boyde hym wold ſake ſome ſecret[illegible]
but ſay this wyſt wolde ſaue ſon[illegible]

Science / I. thynke ſo

Experience / yo thynke yo ſo or no
yonge maſter experience wroſhepfull ſyr
ſhat wyſt ſake I ſet yo cause I deme / thy
I make yo warrantyſe / noſter way

Wyſt enty ce / Sonſ yonge warrantyſe warrant no thyng
ſeruo ſadyo I warrayo yon be not ſo ware
tyte yon ſone more ſor dene ſadyo ſcience
ſad yonge cause wyſt / yo or to ſe ydeed
thys man come in ſoche all his [illegible] muſt
long or his tyme wyſt ſad [illegible] ſtate or deuyſe
but yo truely is how ſare come ſoch [illegible]
wyſt & thys man / yo ſrayde my way [illegible]
cause ſrayde by ſo way / ſo ſhat yonge cause
come / noyther en nor ſend thy none other
wyſe were ſame not ſy an / ſent ſamyſe ſyr

Science / Who is his

Experience / Ingnorance or his brother

Science / What the comon ſcole

Experience / yt is myſt tyte ſim

Science / By my ſcole his ſoonſ ſcuble ſim nowthyng
What ſhyſt ſhe ſnyght ſerchyd ſweak ſcyence

Wyt May ladye I am not ignorance playne
vnto I am yowr owne deere cosen wyll
that hath long lord yon & lorde yon yet
wherefore I pray the now bring my name to
the mynd me thinke a lyttle at this our meeting

Science yo so yo shall among but not yet
as yr this fole here hath got in wyt
shall yon to lyeng yu ride a dayes
yowr mother shall harme yon & yowr wayes

Wyt What needs this my lord of long tarrying
wyll ye be so strange to me your owne
yowre a gnydyng anon to me wo be hydyt of ye
but now yowr ward make my sarde all good ye
yowre dartes at me so strange ye be shott

Science here ye wyll forme this fooles new hath got

Wyt Well I confesse my foolyshnes now
Indeede ladye no dassed a lowe
I wyll be cold wyth my mowse darkyng
eft now a bas my name wrong soarsyng

Science What wyll thow arrand foole
Wyt nay by the mas
I wyll have a bas or I sence wad
Science What wyll thow arrand foole what foolishnes
Wyt What nothyng but foole & foole all this day
by the mas madam ye com no good
Science but a swerving to now by my good
yowre foolyshe enacted overthwart by wood shall
Wyt ye god gonde fooles have to be thy
eyther mas madam ye com no good
& yon shall find call a bed or thy name

Prioresse / Ave
expectacio / & ye alway dowghter the peace amad
Wyt / may nor yet nother some pesse gad
we wyll gue eyther of ye bade some
& alway the nowe good wrote cadye prioresse
all this straunge maner nowe ydle & sober-
& alway the good felowe wyth thy rebor-
Prioresse / what good pastyme were wold ye of me
wysedome ye knowe not nether yet & knowe ye
Wyt / knowe ye not me
Prioresse / no sothe sayd & knowe ye
Wyt / dothe not my vyrtue my reason shewe ye
Prioresse / yone vyrtue
Wyt / yeme vyrtue fadre
that ye & late of mesgouernaunce &
Prioresse / what be yome vyrtue / then shalbe
wyse & sobre yone yome vyrtue agree
to gyue the vyrtue that & name to this
Wyt / yo mary mone owne vyrtues this is
yong lady & & sothe
to endure me wyth this extremyte
Prioresse / why yon are nothyng cyuyll in myne eye
Wyt / no forsothe ye
expertence / sothe sayth & sayd &
Wyt / why thomas than are ye cold / how to expounde
what dyuerse vertuous condicions this enclyneth
Experience / marry this is eyther to restreyne & goodly
& ye dyscrete dyrecte & gyde vyrtuously
Wyt / mary amendes thomas this vyrtue wyll serue
Prioresse / so wold & yonder yemore & more

Dorte sothe

Wyf / what perseve yon me ab ye wold make me
a natwrall foole

Prioress / nay ye myb take me
yf take ye for no foole natwrall
vnles I take ye thinb shall I feel ase

Wyf / ye marye feel me yowr mynd I saye ye
were to shall trust / no more delay ye

Prioress / I take ye for no natwrall foole
wrongest bee among the innocents foole
but for a naughty wylyons foole
wrongest bee amongst
wyth lawnes in yor hoode
of all arrogant foles thow art one

Wyf ye of apparadyse

exorcisme / on let vb be gone

Wyf my sword ib yf gone / a vengeance on them
yf thev gone to ther god vpon them
vvorde gnawe the dybyll goverb yon dob
not one vowell of scripture in them gobe
a man ib vnfit at ease into fowayne them
for sing a drab that so doth dybayne them
so nicely so coldfod so made a sot
nebber vbab I erst knew I wab begot
an I so fowle ab those drabs wold make me
Wyfe ib my glab that ye / oz eye take me
nebb shall this glab of veyon come fro me
ab sayne ab those drabs that so doth decyeme
bas / gramercie / what have we here a dyvyll
this glab I ib well gate gone fro evyll
go / owle a foole / a foole by ys mab
what a very vengeance acth this glab
ofer this glab ib shamefully scoffed
or ees am I so shamefully scoffed

nay or goode armes ſ. am ſo no dowte
your cake thor ſarib ſoone wolvend a dowte
all ſayne & adowe thoy every ſone
& ſoy ho mab a pole a cone
dreat or gog/ comot cote a vrey aſſe
ing norance cote ſcade cawe ye or ho maſſe
coffeyne & all / ſ cak out a table
& ab for thib ſare / ib abominable
ab dea & ab the deboyle god for thib cayſion
Wode cawe ſoone vayde after thib ſayſon
thiſſame ib ſdeonet aſſame take yor
thiſſame ib yor wombe ſhe dwell in ſoeternite yor
ho vozar o gaty ſamd me for ever ſ ſwore
ſ ſwore/ nay by cock ſ ſwore
now it ib ſo the ſwarte ſcore ſ xtayne
coſuro all xcoude now ſo it ſ maye
ebrye man ſ ſo cally me to ſcorne
alab/alab/ that ever ſ was borne
yt wab not for nowght now well ſ ſe
that hoſe tor cabyn dyſdayne me
alab cabyn ſtrieue ob all other
ſoit gate ſ cayld on for & for mother
alab that cabyn ſ gate now coſt
wyſonne all the worldes ſcorne & moſt
alab cooſ ſcomvyſon gaty not cayne
cabyn ſtrieue or thib ho ſ gad mayne
& hoſe ſoiver gyfte/ wyth the dwarfe gayne
ſ gad woon ſo gad ſ wyt for ſaiver
wyſer now inſtede of that cady bryght
ſerwe all hoſe gallant ſame in my ſyght
ſaiver/ ryche/ [illegible]
ſ game wonne that ſet cogger & exonſtame

ſame out in
wa noſtame ſame

[illegible]

Wolf Out vpon the shame/Wogat doost thou here
Reason make speeche and him answere
vpon him shame Wogh stuxxood shrowe smitton
Wogile y reserve his salue gerein warrytton
Spyst so hath broken his xwomyse formerly
made to me reson my dowgster to marry
nexte so hath broken his xwomyse xwomised
to away instruction & him dyspised
thirdly my dowgsters cions to rexwobe
vpon Rienod so hath set his love
fourthly so hath followed shrewnes & vice
fyfte so hath made him a verye offsaw foole
eastly offendyng gods god & man
Wherynne grete offes ab any man can
so hath abused him & the to the grete shame
of all his kynred & blod of his god name
Wogsoeuer saue him not shame gods him withou
so hath deserued more then he can reave

Wolf entreth Of sakes reson be good vnto me that
dowtie wch hath shrewed of shame doeth vnto me
reson gostly adwyse shame/Wyst Wogat shust thou

Wolf of syr forgeue me & beseche you

Reson yf I forgeue the thy vanysshment
Whiche thou hast broke the shust entent
and xwomyse made my dowgster to marye

Wolf Syr I am not Wogh to rewye
the dede and Wogse your dowgster/sheu yt

Reson. I Wot Wele that sith yf I admit
the dwellyng the Wogsine to sytt Wogh
Wyll thou thy pacte the/and to vnto your

Boyst — ye ffyrst covenaunte yon vesselle endureth

Reson — Ye neere maysters geve to vsone ensuinge
Sone takinge vnderstandinge — ffor wordes tolden an honest man
ne — takes fine instruccion do what he can

Instruccion — What folke vnder yese serven before
Reson — ye to my dawghter vnder fine care more
take fine & from fine in newe manere
& yeve hir to fiime heve to his fauerre

Instruccion — Ye on yonne vaw wyll ge ffor sad store
Reson — after ffortune clouded cuts wreker more

Who ast so mayde now his ffame sore dam
may ye wyst wyll be wythout reson
What was his thy fader, kenan asse
seing from yeden ffriends dyd vnto
Out of vnb nere ffrecess is worst vanyshed
And kinder ffrynt mayde more monyshed
ye and ffeve fine neuer to wonder to
Holden ffame talk handled dyne ffamefull
for eyes ab vb wyll and vnderdie cent sume
to reyst ffame to make ffame absent dyne
ffrende gaue holyght him hill wyt sad eene
ab ho ffwing is dayne ffeene
wyt ffame ende & wast till amendment
to contraue vnder ye dyd relent
to ffame where ffame vanyst fine elsewyte
ffader ffin ffad eene in fine ffyte
thanke lab & holyght yt ffoyne kei can
fine dawghter wonder hold on kinman
one all ye dawne nere is to thanke gone
my dawghter take hir per ffmay le eene

Versoholio

I hynk she know his wyf eyn ab woolo
ab she seemd seere to know him no deelo
for cast of knolodge in stience to none
wogerfort she know him & therupon
his mysbeyaver verthance eyn stryeyng
her hart agayn him she nolo mystreyng
ab womon of tymob woylbe gaud hartyd
woylbe bo stranger to be reberyd
his must I serve eyen must nolo walke
in wyf hart wyth my stione to talke
a neede waw to her know I wogerebye
my shamob crimyng dredent nolo must I
dissemble I may bryng my daughter hyther
yf so I daught not to ioyne them to gether

exeunt duo

Confydens e ruth in

I hamb god yet at cast I gade found hym
I wab strayde in myshaue & gad dredend him
my master wyf wyth wisome I gabe spoken
ye and declared token for token
& gabe an ocher to stiene a gayne
a hart of gold sing nifyeng vcayne
that stione gab vnim wyth hart for ever
vnder ye I think to my good endever
to that good lady & sistreete & sister
& mary age be true to them yt shall see her ther

confidens exeunt

Instruction inf in wyf wyt shuby & dyligonce

Hosyr nolo ye be entryd acquayne
forbaird that vassage vogelo dark remayne
fedyonbnob yow mortall emmy
nolo may ye chase vogeiger vnderfe fryn
yow hinds agayne in that forent storete
or elo walking vnfoit adbote

Voyf / now for gods passion syr Col moniocle gim
yo ſ̄ I am abo now forto wrecke gim
his sword of enfort ſonkſuo in cobo
vpon gor emmy nedſ must I wrabe

Instruction / hen saints heare & thinke on yow vyght hand
the that malent before ye shall stand
& forbeare no yf yow emmyes hande to vyse
forgeue my vnkyndnesse in anye wyse
bee ſ̄ kinde & dyligent to serue
hee strooke of tedious nes & hen to serue
hem seeke ab I fold ye ye not gold

Voyf / ye syr for that gold mark the wracke now

Instruction / to make it in deede gare wyll I wyde
to see what shame of hem wyll betyde
for gore rich the wyght of his iornaye
that malentayne before vertis hey mastrayne
is cald in eaten mans vermayne
vertis malentayne ab old auctord dyſend
who attayneth onos to stande on that malent
kadye ſ̄ ionire sib who so may commt
out of se hene ye shall see straught
a fyght we no cob wodyrye vnwrought
hertstrengh I trow ſ̄ that may be reuayled

Sedition / of thes
Instrumen / sure
Sedionbnod / on ſ̄ yeauntyb
Instrucion / he ſ̄ end is vayne
Sedionbnod / ont ydvilayne bo ye ſ̄ in agayne
gabe at ye vnkethes

Voyf / seo syr ye trayne

Sedionbnod / her seo not pur gond

dyligens / fiume agayne studye
studye / nowe dyligence
Instruccio wyll sayde godde fust nowe
studye / ye seeke /
dyligencethen forcowre
Instruccion wyth sib olyone weapon nowe bome be ma sowde
wyth eyth at vesseyte
redyensuch / os so sso
Instruction sawe ye dyeth
wyse strengthe sarthe ye ligge ssnyghethe
sayd wyll nesshim e bringthe in the sedwoon
sib swoonde e sawth ab forcowyth
wyll / fran ye thanke sayd sib wab well done
studye / nay yonus ib thedede
dyligence to yon ib the thanke
Instruccio / os ran ye thanke and sib wab well done
wyll sowe say ye man ib sib feede well woome
comyth e come dye by me fayth so sayth yowr deere gaut
dyligence in /
wyll wyth wyse ib sso that sirenow thowgt
confidence / upon yonder mayden take on dye
sso sawe ye strike that god from the body
we serue ye sab e woome ther bodye all
in token wherefor wsse sawe ye shall
a yowne of knowledge wherin yon must
wasshe yor yowr straught
wyll / gif fayth thow fust

Wyf / Cawsyte / now Lady that cawse shall employe
no ragg but a toy of my most Joye
to kepe you sweete hart / ab shall be myne
shall be no cawse but most ioye to Wyf

Science / Wete yet I saw / mary Well what I saye
my sorowne bryngyth you alogg no nay
not in the kepynge of mi onely
but in the vse of science rosshye
for science one in the Degree
ab dee of most part of woamen be
yf ye vse me Well in a gud sorte
then shall I be yonne Joy & comfort
but yf yor sonne not Well high bowe of me
for sinne ye Wo one other thinkyth on me

Wyf / Why Lady thinke you me sych a Wyf
ab being drawyn by you & yor
wordinysshyp / nay thynke dowt that
seeke to wrone thoff we move you Wrongfull
yf wyf me yse at any person
Shewe me then yor cawse forbearyson

Rosbie / Yo douchtie cawse thynke any more
what need the dowt / ab Lyke Ben before

Esperience / Then take yor leve but I mary your favors
this dowght our dowghter doth request to gaige
for a good warning now at begynnyng
what thynge in the end shall come of
this shalbe gud / yf science Gouernyng
Wherfore ab gud hyst no time be lyke mare
unto gods honor & worshyp both
of yon & yonr nowdaies / Wyfs / folk /
in fear of eynd to be gud to all / folk /
this beene to exercise shall
set you forthwyf by fayr to mine eye
doute not here to your dore Laye
and yf you yose yor contrawrs wyse
so shall god mayne & so dubysse.

to erecte esserte to worshe forwarde for
ye & rest for of & sothnesse of for
desire & exercise shall han
declare yon to serve god & mon
that hyt taken from you shall be taken
& you nought for your grete perfection

Mary / one warnid kepe warnid forte seyn nomore wyth
exercise sinde in ambicion han
tyme to take hede more exercise &
taketyng yonne sorowe for my sonnes &
ab I am certayne that to abide for
I shuld myne owne sorowe & evell to vse for
I entende my soy / & so to make yt
gode grace is redy yf I wyll take yt
hem not yet towent me nothyt a tall
but never the lesse sorowe into your hed fall
not as your sorte exercise teching
all sorowe ought to fyll tyme according
first yo wyth me in god / & sure to fynd
where your father reste take wyth you
to reste gode grace ab god shall sende it
sorte to yt not our soy / tyll tyme ordene yt

Stevens / Well than for the end of all sorowe past
& to that ende wise ye shake yt cast
among our wedding ne attend forwardyng
thinges our eyes wood so ne wenne wring
yeres from on grave wyll shall mistemper
from hemysse of stevens / and for
the gayne my mother to mynd did take
sorowe wyth out end that wyll I to all

Reben / Well sayd & ab ye daughter wysse it
that ioy to all folke in generall

Explicit Treson how same on ye
first in his kinde wyll I gone to fall
to our most noble kyng & quene in ghoostly
to her honorable relyefe / & then to all honest
that I pray ab long may wion se them all ye

Amen

Here with in solue I wyll violet & sprynge
remembrance / & at the last grene alemade
I wysshe & pray forth syngyng

Thus endyth the play of wyt & science
made by master Ihon Redford /

FINIS

[*Here follow the three songs sung in the play of "Wit and Science." See Introduction.*]

Scripting in the play of Noah

Gyne plare gyne plare to honest conversation
gyne plare wee say nobs for thy ronsolation

Wohen thanoll grete in matters thykke
hard dud ye wyff e made homeryke
what mor can ye wyff to yugrke
yf ye wyll knoll the best physyke
ye to gone plare to honest conversation
gyne plare wee say nobs for thy ronsolation

Where is that wyf that we sees than
alas he lyth here pale e wan
helpe hym at ons nobs ar we ran
o wyf tholl dost tholl lak no man
O wyf gone plare to honest conversation
gyne plare wee say nobs for thy ronsolation

Ester plare gynne let care obay
gyne an care o wyf nobs we the pray
gyne care to that we sing e say
gyne an care e hoaly wyll entraylle ban
gyne an care to honest conversation
gyne an eye nobs for thy ronsolation

Ester care gynne nobs gyne an eye
behold thy goode abollis the lye
conversion fe tombre f
yniknes am fe strongth herebye
gyne an eye to honest conversation
gyne an eye nobs for thy ronsolation

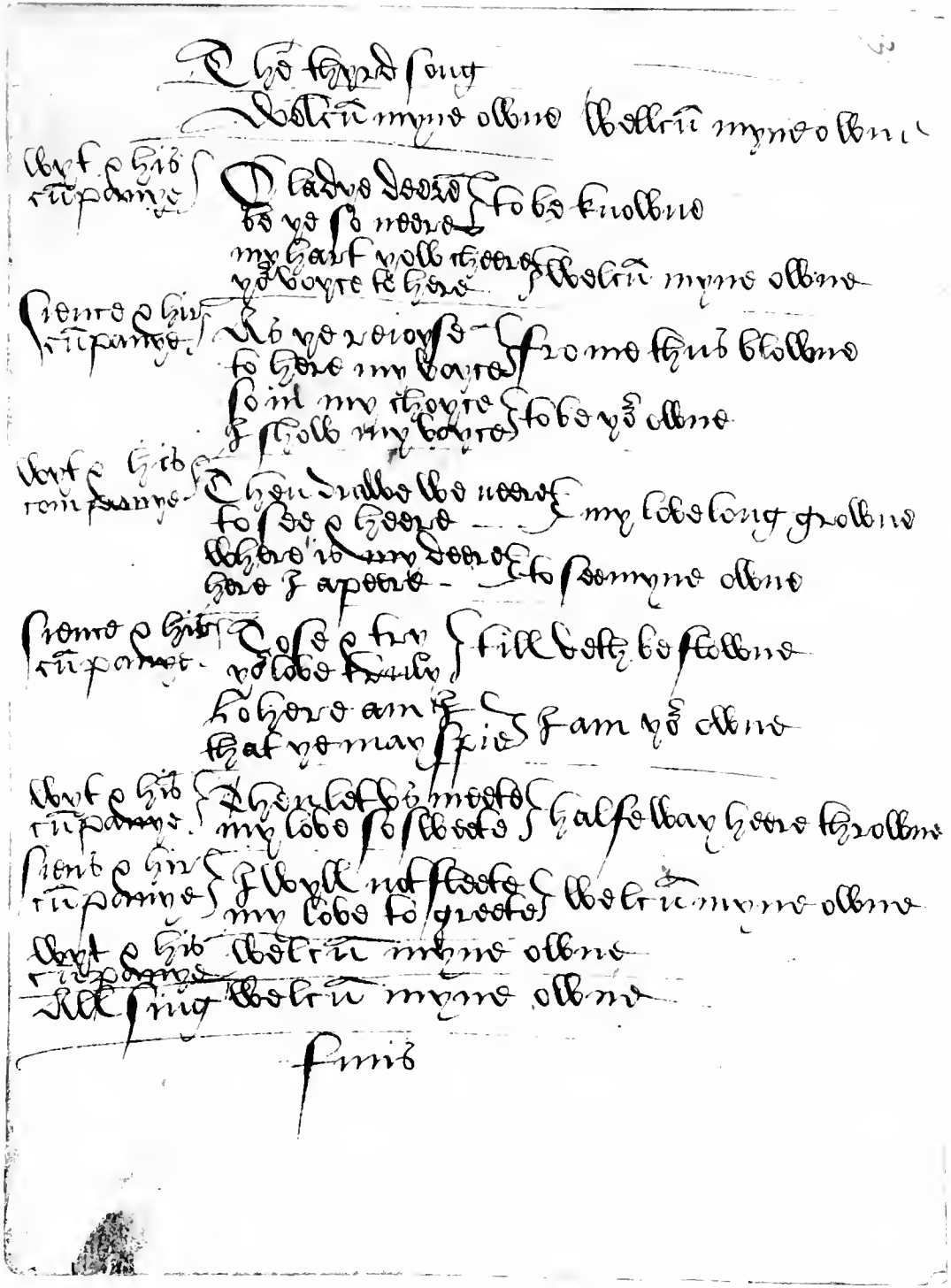
Affor eyes dymm an hand dymo yo
dymo an hand o lhyt footo that yo so
consolacion footo. footo comfort fro
footo dunkins hono footo strength to thy
dymo an hand to thoust consolacion
dymo an hand nobb for thy consolacion

Upon hys footo wood god holbore
to haue him nobb noode not fore
ffay you hys hand lhylo lho hore bore
nobb all at onco bryngt him wore
O lhyt dymo place to thoust consolacion
dymo placebo say nobb for thy consolacion

finis

Ho nisi

Prodying mo sine lhyt payno con tinobball
Fandoning in absence alas lhat shall I do
infortunate lhrotch debonde of iyes all
Lyghes upon lyghes redoubling my lhoe
Afore fobure fallyng fro myne eyes foo
Lhylo lhyt truth so bold mo constrayne
Ob to see lhere I may not attayne

Truth bynding mo ob to be true
Nobb so that fortune fabeth my thame
Dwyng my hole mine other but yelle youre
Of myn true hart shall hane the goodname
Ogor lhole hart hane you remembrance
Nobb of yo olone lhyt for no smart
Lyle shall nobb fro my true hart

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